

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to any paper(s) indicated above, and is responsive in any other manner indicated below.

REQUEST FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW BEFORE FURTHER ACTION

In the interest of expediting prosecution of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that an examiner interview be scheduled and conducted before a further action is issued with respect to the present application. The examiner interview is also to be attended by Applicant's Japanese representative(s), and when a travel schedule of such Japanese representative(s) becomes set, the undersigned will soon attempt contact to schedule an Examiner Interview. In the event that the present papers, in and of themselves, are sufficient to place the application in condition for allowance, no Examiner interview would be necessary for this application, but may still be requested for another continuation application.

ALL REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC '103 - TRAVERSED

All 35 USC rejections of claims 12-18 and 20-32 based upon various combinations of Lawler et al. '838, Noguchi et al. '345, Alten et al. '978, Chang et al. '563 are respectfully traversed. However, such rejections have been rendered obsolete by the present clarifying amendments to Applicant's claims, and

accordingly, traversal arguments are not appropriate at this time. However, Applicant respectfully submits the following to preclude renewal of any such rejections against Applicant's clarified claims.

All descriptions of Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention, and all descriptions and rebuttal arguments regarding the applied prior art, as previously submitted by Applicant in any form, are repeated and incorporated hereat by reference. Further, all Office Action statements regarding the prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. As additional arguments, Applicant respectfully submits the following.

Discussion turns first to clarified independent claim 12 (and claims 13-15, 20 and 24-26 dependent therefrom). More particularly, clarified claim 12 is directed to a digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least one of video or character information of programs, and which includes: an omission display controller which omits a part of a character information of a particular program when a number of characters in the character information of the particular program is larger than a number of characters which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone indicative of a prescribed time period; and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information of the particular program, and a program start time and a program end time of the particular program in a second prescribed zone at least when the particular program exceeds the prescribed time period of the first prescribed zone. Underlining has been added to

the above to emphasize some features/limitations which are believed to distinguish over the art of record.

More particularly, with respect to Lawler et al. '838, at minimum, such reference does not display a program start time and a program end time of the particular program in a second prescribed zone. Thus, even if a user were to select the display block of a program having a time period which extended outside of a presently display time range, the user still would be uninformed as to a start time and end time of the program. The user, thus, could not make an informed decision as to whether the selected program fit within his/her time budget/availability.

That is, the time shown by 106 of Lawler et al.'s FIG. 3 is a current time, not a program start time or program end time. The Lawler et al.'s program start time and program end time are displayed merely by a column as shown by 93 of FIG. 3. Thus program start time and/or program end time extending beyond the column being displayed cannot be informed by Lawler's column arrangement.

Noguchi et al. '345 discloses a program start time and program end time of only programs being broadcast at present. Namely, as seen from col. 7, lines 32-34 of Noguchi et al., Noguchi's guide is used as a means for selecting a station channel. Thus, it is impossible to obtain information as to a program which cannot be selected.

Further, Noguchi et al. does not consider information of a program having a broadcast time which extends beyond a time range being displayed by the guide.

Thus, Noguchi et al. fails to disclose obtaining information of a program whose time axis cannot be fully displayed on a first prescribed zone.

In view of the fact that neither of Lawler et al. or Noguchi et al. disclose or suggest a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information of the particular program, and a program start time and a program end time of the particular program in a second prescribed zone at least when the particular program exceeds the prescribed time period of the first prescribed zone, it is respectfully submitted that no combination of Lawler et al. or Noguchi et al. would have disclosed or suggested Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention.

Chang et al. '563 does not cure the deficiency mentioned above with respect to the Lawler et al and Noguchi et al. references.

In contrast, Applicant's clarified invention discloses 503₂ and 601 in FIG. 9, so that Applicant's arrangements can inform a user of a program start time and program end time which may extend beyond the time axis of the program table being displayed.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a '103 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims 12-15, 20 and 24-26. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of such claims, are respectfully requested.

Turning next to clarified independent claim 16 (and claims 17-18 and 27-29 dependent therefrom), such clarified claim is directed to a digital broadcasting

receiver which displays at least one of video or a plurality of background information blocks indicative of program time. Such arrangement includes: a display change controller which changes a particular background information block when the particular background information block cannot be displayed in full in a first prescribed zone indicative of a prescribed time period; and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed particular background information block in a second prescribed zone for any program, regardless of whether the program is selected from programs currently being broadcast or from programs not currently being broadcast; wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a fixed position.

Similar discussions supportive of a patentability of the above-listed independent claim 1 can be made for the claims 16-18 and 27-29. That is, neither of Lawler et al. or Noguchi et al. disclose or suggest displaying full program time information for programs not currently being broadcast. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no combination of Lawler et al. or Noguchi et al. would have disclosed or suggested Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention.

Chang et al. '563 does not cure the deficiency mentioned above with respect to the Lawler et al and Noguchi et al. references.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a '103 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims 16-18 and 27-29. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of such claims, are respectfully requested.

Turning finally to clarified independent claim 21 (and claims 22-23 and 30-32 dependent therefrom), such embodiment is directed to a digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least one of video or a plurality of background information blocks each indicative of a program time period. Such arrangement includes: a display change controller which changes a displayed shape of a particular background information block indicative of a program time period when the program time period indicated by the particular background information block exceeds a program time period which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone; and a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, a program start time and a program end time of the program time period indicated by the particular background information block in a second prescribed zone for any program regardless of whether the program is selected from programs currently being broadcast or from programs not currently being broadcast; wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a fixed position.

Similar discussions supportive of a patentability of the above-listed independent claim 1 can be made for the claims 21-23 and 30-32. That is, Alten et al. '978 is similar to Lawler et al. in that Alten et al., at minimum, does not display a program start time and a program end time of the particular program in a second prescribed zone. Thus, even if a user were to select the display block of a program having a time period which extended outside of a presently display time range, the user still would be uninformed as to a start time and end time of the program. The

user, thus, could not make an informed decision as to whether the selected program fit within his/her time budget/availability.

Noguchi et al. is deficient as was described above. As neither of Alten et al. or Noguchi et al. disclose or suggest displaying full program time information for programs not currently being broadcast, it is respectfully submitted that no combination of Lawler et al. or Noguchi et al. would have disclosed or suggested Applicant's disclosed and claimed invention.

Chang et al. '563 does not cure the deficiency mentioned above with respect to the Alten et al and Noguchi et al. references.

As a result of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art would not support a '103 obviousness-type rejection of Applicant's claims 21-23 and 30-32. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of such '103 rejections, and express written allowance of all of such claims, are respectfully requested.

As to added claim 33, such claim claims a digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least data information of programs, and which includes an omission display controller which displays information indicative of at least one of a current program and at least one future program at indicated predetermined time periods, where a time period of the at least one future program may exceed the indicated time period within a first prescribe zone; and a full display controller which displays, in response to selection of a future program indicated to exceed the indicated time period within the first prescribed zone, at least the start time and end time of the selected future program in a second prescribed zone.

Again, the same arguments as were set forth above in support of a patentability of independent claim 1 are likewise applicable to support a patentability of this added claim 33. Consideration and express written allowance of such claim 33, are respectfully requested

EXTENSIVE PROSECUTION NOTED

Applicant and the undersigned respectfully note the extensive prosecution which has been conducted to date with the present application, and thus Applicant and the undersigned would gratefully appreciate any considerations or guidance from the Examiner to help move the present application quickly to allowance.

EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is herein invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys at the local Washington, D.C. area telephone number of 703/312-6600 for discussing any Examiner's Amendments or other suggested actions for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

INDICATION OF CHANGES MADE

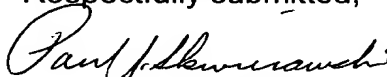
In order to comply with requirements under the recent changes to U.S. practice, amendments are made via the attached "Appendix - Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims listed above as presently being under consideration in the application are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR '1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 500.35360CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix - Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

APPENDIX - VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. Note that the full text and/or status of all claims (including those not being amended within this paper) may also be included to provide the convenience of a complete set of claims for easy review:

1-11. (Previously canceled)

12. (Four Times Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least one of video or a ~~plurality of~~ character information ~~strings~~ of programs, ~~when receiving digital broadcasting~~, comprising:

an omission display controller which omits a part of a character information ~~string~~ of a particular program when a number of characters in the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program is larger than a number of characters which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone indicative of a prescribed time period; and

a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, an entirety of the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program, ~~in a second prescribed zone~~, and ~~an entirety of~~ a program start time and a program end time of the particular program in ~~a~~ the second prescribed zone at least when the particular program exceeds the prescribed time period of the first prescribed zone.

13. (Twice Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, further comprising a judge controller which judges whether a number of characters in the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program is larger than the number of characters which can be displayed in the first prescribed zone.

14. (Twice Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, further comprising a select controller which selects the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program from a the plurality of character information ~~strings~~ of the programs.

15. (Twice Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, wherein the omission display controller adds an omission symbol to a remaining part of the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program from which a part was omitted when displaying the remaining part of the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program from which a part was omitted in the first prescribed zone.

16. (Four Times Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least one of video or a plurality of background information blocks indicative of program time, ~~when receiving digital broadcasting~~, comprising:

a display change controller which changes a particular background information block ~~indicative of program time~~ when the particular background information block ~~indicative of program time~~ cannot be displayed in full in a first prescribed zone indicative of a prescribed time period; and

a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, full program time information of the changed particular background information block ~~indicative of program time~~ in a second prescribed zone for any program, regardless of whether the program is selected from programs currently being broadcast or from programs not currently being broadcast;

wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a fixed position.

17. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 16, further comprising a judge controller which judges whether a background information block indicative of program time can be displayed in full in the first prescribed zone.

18. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 16, further comprising a select controller which selects a shape of the particular a background information block indicative of program time from a the plurality of shapes of background information blocks indicative of program time.

19. (Previously canceled)

20. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, wherein the character information ~~string~~ of the particular program is a title of the particular program.

21. (Four Times Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least one of video or a plurality of background information blocks each indicative of a program time period, ~~when receiving digital broadcasting~~, comprising:

a display change controller which changes a displayed shape of a particular background information block indicative of a program time period when the program time period indicated by the particular background information block exceeds a program time period which can be displayed in a first prescribed zone; and

a full display controller which displays, in response to a predetermined selection, a program start time and a program end time of the program time period indicated by the particular background information block in a second prescribed zone for any program regardless of whether the program is selected from programs currently being broadcast or from programs not currently being broadcast;

wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a fixed position.

22. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 21, further comprising a judge controller which judges whether the program time period indicated by the particular background information block exceeds the program time period which can be displayed in the first prescribed zone.

23. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 21, further comprising a select controller which selects the particular background information block from the plurality of background information blocks.

24. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, wherein the second prescribed zone does not overlap any part of the first prescribed zone.

25. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 12, wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a fixed position.

26. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 25, wherein the second prescribed zone does not overlap any part of the first prescribed zone.

27. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 16, wherein the second prescribed zone does not overlap any part of the first prescribed zone.

28. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 16, wherein the full display controller further displays, in response to the predetermined selection, an entirety of a character information string of a program associated with the changed background information block in a third prescribed zone outside the second prescribed zone;

wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a first fixed position; and

wherein the third prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a second fixed position different from the first fixed position.

29. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 28, wherein neither the second prescribed zone nor the third prescribed zone overlaps any part of the first prescribed zone.

30. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 21, wherein the second prescribed zone does not overlap any part of the first prescribed zone.

31. (Amended) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 21, wherein the full display controller further displays, in response to the predetermined selection, an entirety of a character information string of a program associated with the particular background information block in a third prescribed zone outside the second prescribed zone;

wherein the second prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a first fixed position; and

wherein the third prescribed zone is constantly displayed at a second fixed position different from the first fixed position.

32. (Original) A digital broadcasting receiver according to claim 31, wherein neither the second prescribed zone nor the third prescribed zone overlaps any part of the first prescribed zone.

Please add the following new claim(s):

33. (New) A digital broadcasting receiver which displays at least data information of programs, comprising:

an omission display controller which displays information indicative of at least one of a current program and at least one future program at indicated predetermined time periods, where a time period of the at least one future program may exceed the indicated time period within a first prescribe zone; and

a full display controller which displays, in response to selection of a future program indicated to exceed the indicated time period within the first prescribed zone, at least the start time and end time of the selected future program in a second prescribed zone.